



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDER, U.S. NAVAL FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND  
FPO AE 09501-6008

IN REPLY TO:

5800  
Ser 00/1082  
14 Oct 00

From: Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command  
To: Captain [REDACTED] Jr., U.S. Navy,

Subj: COMMAND INVESTIGATION INTO THE ACTIONS OF USS COLE  
(DDG 67) IN PREPARING FOR AND UNDERTAKING A BRIEF STOP  
FOR FUEL AT BANDAR AT TAWAHI (ADEN HARBOR) ADEN, YEMEN ON  
OR ABOUT 12 OCTOBER 2000

Ref: (a) JAG Manual  
(b) Presidential Decision Directive-39  
(c) Title 18 United States Code (various statutes)  
(d) SECNAVINST 5520.3B

1. This appoints you, per chapter II of reference (a), to inquire into the facts and circumstances surrounding the actions of USS COLE (DDG-67) in preparing for and undertaking a Brief Stop for Fuel (BSF) at Aden Harbor, Yemen, on 12 October 2000.

2. Investigate the actions of USS COLE (DDG-67) in preparing for and undertaking a BSF at Aden, Harbor, Yemen. Report your findings of fact, opinions, and recommendations in letter form by 13 November 2000, unless an extension of time is granted. If you have not already done so, read chapter II of reference (a) in its entirety before beginning your investigation.

3. Pursuant to references (b), (c) and (d), the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Naval Criminal Investigative Service have jurisdiction to investigate acts of terrorism. You are specifically directed not to inquire into the facts and circumstances surrounding the explosion that occurred external to, but in the immediate vicinity of USS COLE (DDG-67), or the person(s) who may have been involved in that explosion. You will cooperate fully with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other federal agencies or persons participating in the investigation of the explosion.

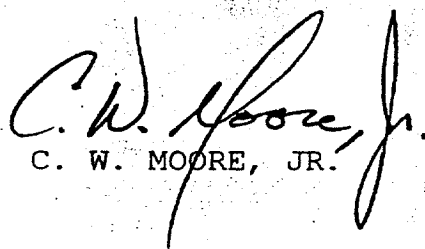
4. Implicit to this appointment order is recognition of the possibility that higher authority may appoint other investigative bodies. Under these circumstances you may be

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directed to terminate your inquiry, cooperate with, and/or  
become part of another investigation.

5. You may seek legal advice from Lieutenant Commander [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] JAGC, U.S. Navy, Deputy Force Judge Advocate, during  
the course of your investigation.

6. By copy of this appointing order, Commander [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] U.S. Naval Reserves, Assistant Chief of Staff,  
Administration, is directed to furnish necessary clerical  
assistance.

  
C. W. MOORE, JR.

Copy to:

CDR [REDACTED]

LCDR [REDACTED]